

Select Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 28, 2023
Stow Town Building & Zoom

Present in the Warren Room: Megan Birch-McMichael, Ellen Sturgis, Cortni Frecha, Ingeborg Hegemann Clark, and Town Administrator Denise Dembkoski

Present via Zoom: Hector Constantzos

Chair Birch-McMichael called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Public Comment is limited to items not on the agenda, and anyone speaking should state their name and address.

Public Comment

Mark Forgues, 39 Adams Drive and 9 White Pond Road, spoke about the presentation scheduled later tonight at the Planning Board meeting, which will be attended by the Select Board. Mr. Forgues said that the information is not ready to go to the upcoming town meeting.

Board Member Comments - none

Town Administrator (TA) Report

- As of March 23, there are less than five (5) COVID-19 cases in Stow for a positivity rate of 7.35% which is calculated from 68 tests conducted in the last two weeks with five being positive.
- Nomination papers are available from the Town Clerk's office for all elected positions and must be picked up by 5 p.m. tomorrow, March 29, and returned by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 31, 2023.
- Melissa and Kevin Whalen will "Light It Up Blue" at Pompo on April 2 to show support for all those who fight, struggle, and support friends, families, and loved ones with ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder). There will not be an event this year.

Appointments to Master/Comprehensive Planning Committee

Candidates Laurie Burnett and Charlie Hartford were present in the Warren Room. There were three candidates but one withdrew.

Ms. Burnett said she lived in Stow in the mid-1990s and her family moved back to Stow to raise their three children. She looks forward to listening to residents and creating a vision for what we want for our future. She is a lifelong learner with experience in needs and strengths assessment.

Mr. Hartford said his family has lived in Stow since the spring of 1991, and moved here as it was a nice community to raise their two children. This is his first time volunteering since the early 1990s and he now has the time to be on a committee. He is experienced at pulling results from data.

Board member Frecha moved to appoint Laurie Burnett as a Member At Large of the Master/Comprehensive Planning Committee, to serve an indefinite term.

Board member Sturgis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Board member Frecha moved to appoint Charlie Hartford as a Member At Large of the Master/Comprehensive Planning Committee, to serve an indefinite term.
Board member Sturgis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Event Permit for the Stow Town Clean-Up

Board member Frecha moved to permit Jennifer Henderson and other volunteers to use the Lower Common on Saturday, April 22, 2023 between 8 a.m. and 12 noon to distribute trash collection bags and protective gear, for the annual Stow Town Clean Up, and to waive the requirement of an insurance certificate.
Board member Sturgis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Deficit Spending for Snow & Ice Account

Ms. Dembkoski said the town has exceeded the \$200,000 appropriated for this account, and she will have a final total at the next meeting.

Board member Frecha moved, pursuant to Mass General Law Chapter 44, section 31D, to allow deficit spending of the fiscal year 2023 Snow & Ice account.
Board member Sturgis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Meeting Minutes

Board member Frecha moved to accept the meeting minutes of the March 14, 2023 meeting as written.
Board member Sturgis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Correspondence – no comments

Join the Planning Board Meeting

At 7:25 p.m. Board member Frecha moved to pause this meeting in order to join the Planning Board meeting, and to reconvene following completion of the Select Board's business with the Planning Board.
Board member Sturgis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

At 9:02 p.m. the Select Board left the Planning Board meeting and reconvened.

The Board briefly discussed the citizen petition to allow food drive-throughs in the business district, and the presentation for the possibilities in Lower Village. The Planning Board is on the next Select Board agenda to discuss zoning articles being presented to Town Meeting.

Adjournment

At 9:20 p.m. Board member Frecha moved to adjourn.
Board member Constantzos seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Sampson, Executive Assistant

Documents used at this meeting:

Documents can be found in the Select Board's Office in the meeting folder.